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means. He has no dread, for instance, of trust control of the *paté de fois gras* industry.) Rather illogically he pictures with stunning force the orgy of the London crowd on the night Pretoria was entered by the British, and fails to see what a sickening demonstration that was, not of financial guile, but of brutal passion, misnamed patriotism.

But, though the work be vulnerable in spots, it is a fine example of the most valuable work, perhaps, which socialists are doing, the exposure of the injustice and cruelty which inheres in existing social arrangements—evils which some individualists as well as most socialists abhor.

JOHN MARTIN.

Karl Marx: His Life and Work. By JOHN SPARGO. (New York: B. W. Huebsch. 1910. Pp. 359. Price \$2.50.)

In this book Mr. Spargo presents the result of thirteen years of study and labor. Though the author disclaims for his work the title of a final authorized biography of the founder of modern political socialism, it will be long before the task is better done, if, indeed, it ever is. The author has drawn freely from all the known sources of information about the personal life of Marx and his family, especially from Mehring's *Geschichte der deutschen Sozial-Democratie* and *Aus dem litterarischen Nachlass*, etc., and from the files of many journals. He has interviewed known sources of information about the personal life of Marx intimately. The authorities for specific statements are indicated in part, and the volume is interestingly embellished with photogravures of Marx and his friends, of Marx's various homes, etc.

The most successful feature of the book is its presentation of the personality and private life of Marx and his family. Prime conditions to this result are a good literary style and the author's evident admiration and affection for his theme. Because to him every little thing seems to be worth while, he has given a chatty, gossipy and intimate account of his hero's life. He describes the friendship of Marx with Friedrich Engels, Heinrich Heine, Ferdinand Lassalle and many others. He portrays frankly and affectionately the trials and triumphs, the hopes and the soul-struggles, the loves and the hates, the appetites and the foibles, the temper and the serenity, the modesty and the vanity, the shrewdness and the insight, the learning, the logic, the sentiment, and the unpractical dreaminess of Marx. The book is thus interesting

reading to any person who concerns himself with social questions. One can well imagine the fascination with which it will be studied by the devoted disciples of Marx.

The author's personal admiration for his theme is, however, something of a hindrance to a judicial treatment. Though in several cases he freely concedes that Marx's judgment was at fault, as shown by later events, yet these shadows in the picture serve but to bring his admiration more clearly into the foreground. He misses no opportunity to praise Marx as a world genius; he exhausts the vocabulary of appreciation. The comparison between Marx's work and Darwin's is a favorite of Mr. Spargo, as it was of Marx himself, despite the glaring contrast between the ways in which Marx and Darwin arrived at their main propositions and between the kinds of evidence they offered in demonstration. This humming accompaniment of praise, this constant odor of incense, must at times be irritating to most readers who will long now and then for a moment undisturbed to form an opinion for themselves on the basis of the facts given.

In questions of principle and theory, Mr. Spargo, as always, shows himself a painstaking and able student, but an unwavering disciple of Marx. Though frankly recognizing that the revisionists in the Socialist Party have gained in numbers and prestige, he has no place for revisionism in his own orthodox creed. Various passages throughout the book are given to controverted questions, and the last chapter, "His Achievements," is a systematic defence of the main articles of Marxism. Such arguments weigh down the book, but doubtless they will make good propagandist material and good tracts for the faithful. Altogether Mr. Spargo has accomplished in an excellent manner the objects he had in view, both those which were and those which were not worth the doing in the interests of historical and scientific truth.

FRANK A. FETTER.

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Socialism and Success: Some Uninvited Messages. By W. J. GHENT. (New York: John Lane Co. 1910. Pp. 252. \$1.00.)

To *Our Benevolent Feudalism*, which attracted some attention at the time of its appearance, and later, *Mass and Class*, Mr. Ghent has recently added *Socialism and Success*, a little volume of six essays comprising about forty-five thousand words. In the course of these essays he shows that success, by which is usually